

FALLOUT PART 1 OF 2

VAMPi[®]

MARCH
STUDIOS

#23

CONWAY
AHN
TAM



WHAT HAS COME BEFORE



The beast doesn't give in to the Valusians wishes and soon departs, taking Connie with him.

With no one left to worry about, Vampi unleashes her fury on the creatures before her. They get the better of her for the moment, but with nothing and no one to hold her back, Vampi's anger wins the moment.

The Valusians, though, are only the tip of the iceberg. There's much more behind their greater threat. Vampi's been trying to take down their operation piece by piece, all the while looking for—hoping to find—Connie.

The greatest loss is that of the innocents, and Vampi won't rest until those that prey on them are defeated.

In her endeavors to finally get her past in order, Vampi made her way south of the border. The mysteries she uncovered in Mexico City doubled her own confusion of what she was.

The Golden Couple—Aurelius and Aurora Valusian—showed their true colors. And those colors were gold, highlighted by blood red. The beautiful people proved themselves to be cold-blooded beasts, related to the creatures that helped give birth to Vampi.

Sisters under the skin, as beastly Aurora tells her.

Vampi, denying her animalistic tendencies and embracing her human side, refuses to join the Valusians. They taunt her, showing her their prize: Connie, Vampi's friend who has helped her without question since the young vampire helped defeat a vicious monster. The Valusians, in honor of their god-like past, offer Connie up as a sacrifice to the same beast, which has wandered its way into the maze beneath the Valusian's stronghold.



HELL IS TOO
SMALL A WORD
FOR THIS.



ALMOST
TWENTY-FOUR HOURS
HAVE PASSED SINCE THE
FIRST HORRIFIC DISCOVERIES
WITHIN "THE PYRAMID
OF DEATH".

AMONG THE
BODIES UNEARTHED,
THERE ARE REMAINS
TENTATIVELY IDENTIFIED
AS CENTURIES OLD.

HOWEVER
INCREDIBLE AS THESE
DISCOVERIES SEEM, THE MOST
SHOCKING ASPECT MAY BE THE
IDENTITY OF THE ALLEGED
PERPETRATORS --

-- AURELIUS AND
AURORA VALUSIAN, WHOSE
INVESTMENT PROGRAM AND
INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT WAS
RESPONSIBLE FOR MEXICO
CITY'S ECONOMIC
RENAISSANCE.

THE SO-CALLED
"GOLDEN COUPLE" IS
NOW ACCUSED OF THESE
ATROCITIES BY --

-- DOMINGO DE
GUZMAN, THE RECENTLY
APPOINTED INTERIOR MINISTER,
WHO IS CURRENTLY FACING CHARGES
RANGING FROM CONSPIRACY AND
CORRUPTION, TO KIDNAPPING
AND MURDER.

DE GUZMAN
IS CURRENTLY
DETAINED AT A SECURE
PSYCHIATRIC UNIT.

HIS ALLEGATIONS
OF HUMAN SACRIFICE,
MONSTERS AND VAMPIRES
HAVE BEEN JUDGED
SYMPTOMATIC OF A MENTAL
BREAKDOWN.

AND WHAT
OF THE VALUSIANS
THEMSELVES?

WE CAN SAFELY
DISCOUNT DE GUZMAN'S
CLAIMS THAT THEY WERE
REPTILIAN MONSTERS IN
HUMAN FORM.

BUT AS
TO THE TRUTH OF
THEIR CURRENT
WHEREABOUTS...

... THAT REMAINS
A MYSTERY AS THE
AUTHORITIES CONTINUE
TO DELVE INTO THE
"PYRAMID OF
DEATH".

ELITE SPECIAL
FORCES ARE INVESTIGATING
THE LAST OF THE FACTORY COMPLEX
WHERE IT IS ALLEGED SINISTER
RESEARCH PROGRAMS HAVE
BEEN CONDUCTED BY
ROGUE SCIENTISTS.

HOWEVER STRANGE
THE CIRCUMSTANCES,
THE AUTHORITIES ASSURE US
THAT WHEN THE TRUTH IS
FINALLY REVEALED--


-- IT WILL HAVE
ABSOLUTELY NOTHING
TO DO WITH GIANT LIZARDS,
OCCULT CONSPIRACIES,
OR BLOODSUCKING
MONSTERS.



THE COVER-UP HAS
ALREADY STARTED. I'M
RUNNING OUT OF TIME.




AND SO IS CONNIE--
IF SHE'S STILL ALIVE.



I WASTED AN ENTIRE
DAY SEARCHING THE
VALUSIAN'S ESTATE
AND FOUND NOTHING.



IT'S JUST POSSIBLE THAT
THING TOOK HER THERE.



IT'S RUMORED THAT THE
TUNNEL NETWORK BENEATH THE
HOUSE CONNECTS DIRECTLY WITH
THE MAIN FACTORY COMPLEX.



PROBLEM IS THE
AUTHORITIES HAVE
ALREADY BEATEN
ME TO IT.



THEY'VE SENT THEIR
CRACK TROOPS IN ON
A SEARCH AND
DESTROY MISSION.



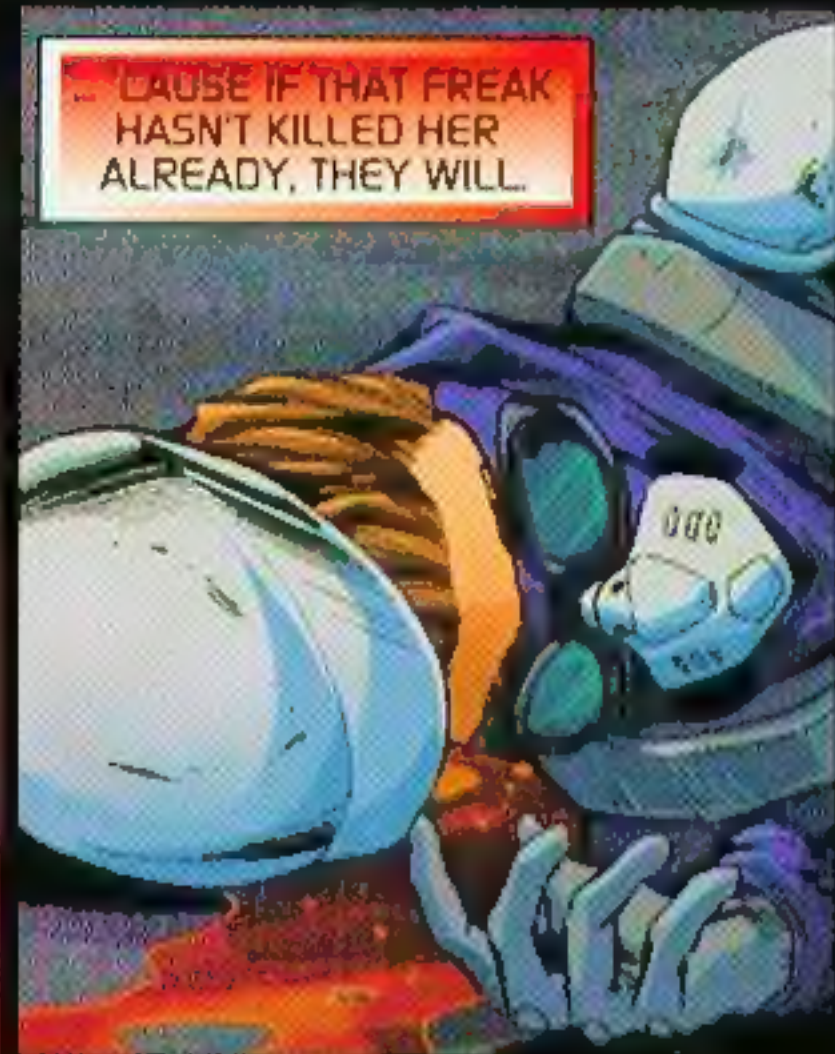
THOSE GUYS ARE
PROFESSIONAL KILLERS--
NOTHING STANDS
IN THEIR WAY.



THEY WON'T LEAVE SURVIVORS.
WITNESSES TO WHAT THE VALUSIANS
REALLY WERE IS THE LAST THING
THE GOVERNMENT WANTS.



IF CONNIE IS THERE,
I'VE GOT TO GET TO
HER BEFORE THEY DO...



... 'CAUSE IF THAT FREAK
HASN'T KILLED HER
ALREADY, THEY WILL.



AFTER ALL
THE DEAD...

TELL NO TALES.





HUH-HEL-HELP



-- H-HELP--
MUH-ME--



WHAT
HAPPENED
HERE?

WHO
DID THIS?

CUH-CAME--
OUT-- OUTTA NO-
NOWHERE

CUH-CREEPING--
FL-FLYING-- CUH-CRAWLING
OUT-- OUTTA THE WALLS

LI-LIKE-- BUGS--
BUH-BIG BUGS--
M-MONSTERS



MONSTERS?

BU-BURNING
RED EYES-- RAZORS
AND ACID-- BARBED
WIRE SMILES



A THU-THOUSAND
SCAL-SCALPELS--
UNZIPPING SKIN--

K-KILLING--
KUH-KILLING--
KILLING--

-- K-KILLING--
EVERYONNNNE--



MAYBE THE VALUSIANS
ARE DEAD-- BUT THEY
COULDN'T HAVE BEEN
WORKING ALONE.

GOD KNOWS
WHAT REALLY
HAPPENED HERE--

BUT WHOEVER
IS RESPONSIBLE
IS STILL IN THERE.

WE SHOULD
BE LONG GONE BY THE
TIME THE GOVERNMENT CAN
ASSEMBLE ANOTHER
ASSAULT SQUAD.

ANYWAY, IT'S
TOO LATE FOR ANYONE
TO STOP US NOW.

Dr. Anger.


BEAUTIFUL,
ISN'T IT?

PURE
HEAVY ENERGY
PLASMA.

AND THERE'S
ENOUGH HERE TO
FUEL THE BIRTH OF A
MEDIUM-SIZED
STAR.

THE PRIMAL
SOURCE THAT SEEDED
THE CONSTELLATIONS AT
THE VERY MOMENT OF
CREATION.

I'VE TAKEN THE
LIBERTY OF NAMING IT
DRACONIUM--



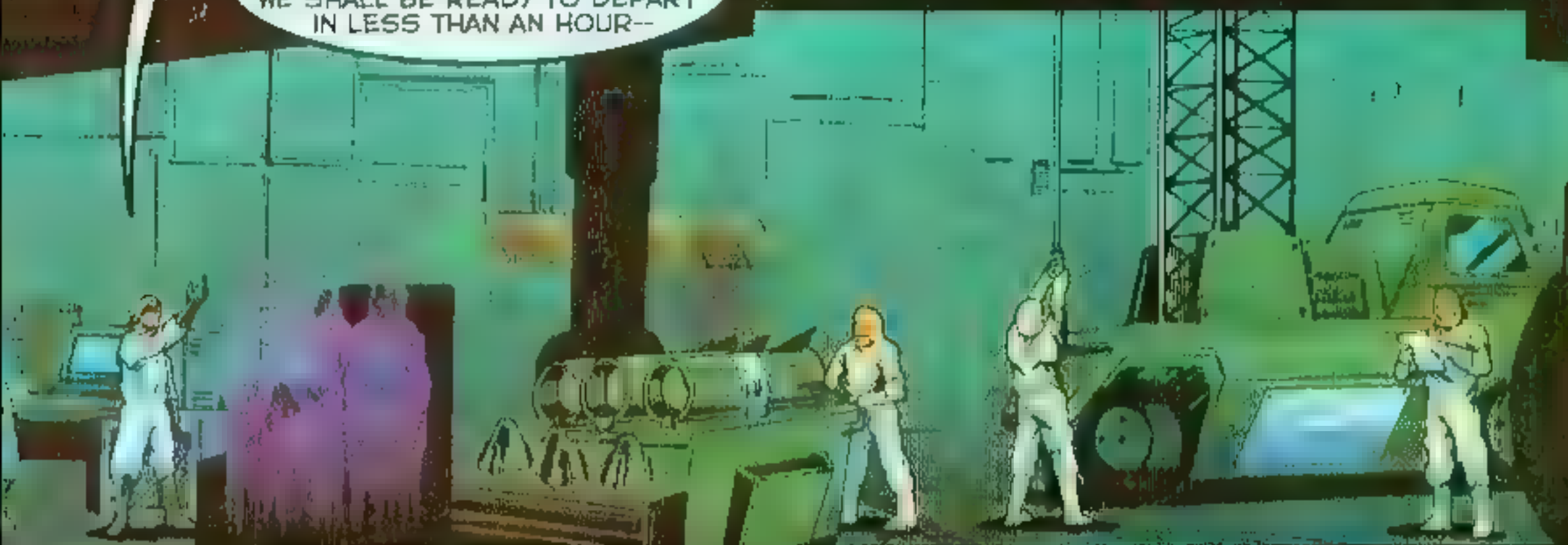
YOU ARE
JUST A SLAVE TO YOUR
ACHIEVEMENTS. YOU ARE
JUST AS MUCH A SLAVE TO
YOUR OWN DESIRES
AS I AM.

IT DOESN'T HAVE
BEEN MADE FOR THE
DRAGON. IT IS A
SLAVE.

— IN
YOUR HONOR,
MASTER.

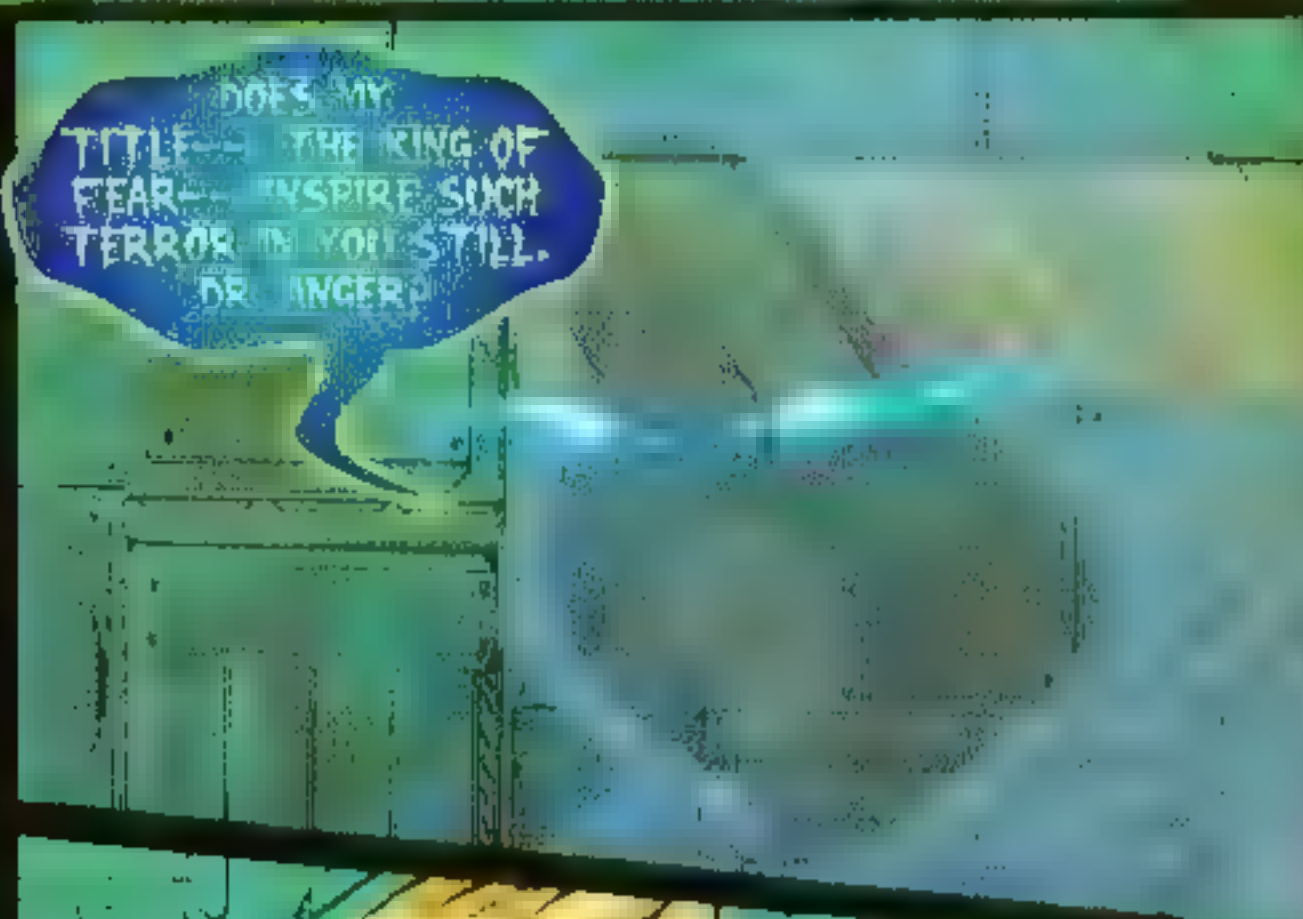
YES--
YES, MASTER--
EVERYTHING HAS BEEN
ARRANGED--

A ZEPHYR
CLASS STEALTH BOMBER
IS BEING PREPPED AND FUELLED.
WE SHALL BE READY TO DEPART
IN LESS THAN AN HOUR--



ONCE THE
WARHEADS HAVE
BEEN ARMED AND
LOADED.

DOES MY
TITLE-- THE KING OF
FEAR-- INSPIRE SUCH
TERROR IN YOU STILL,
DR. RINGER?

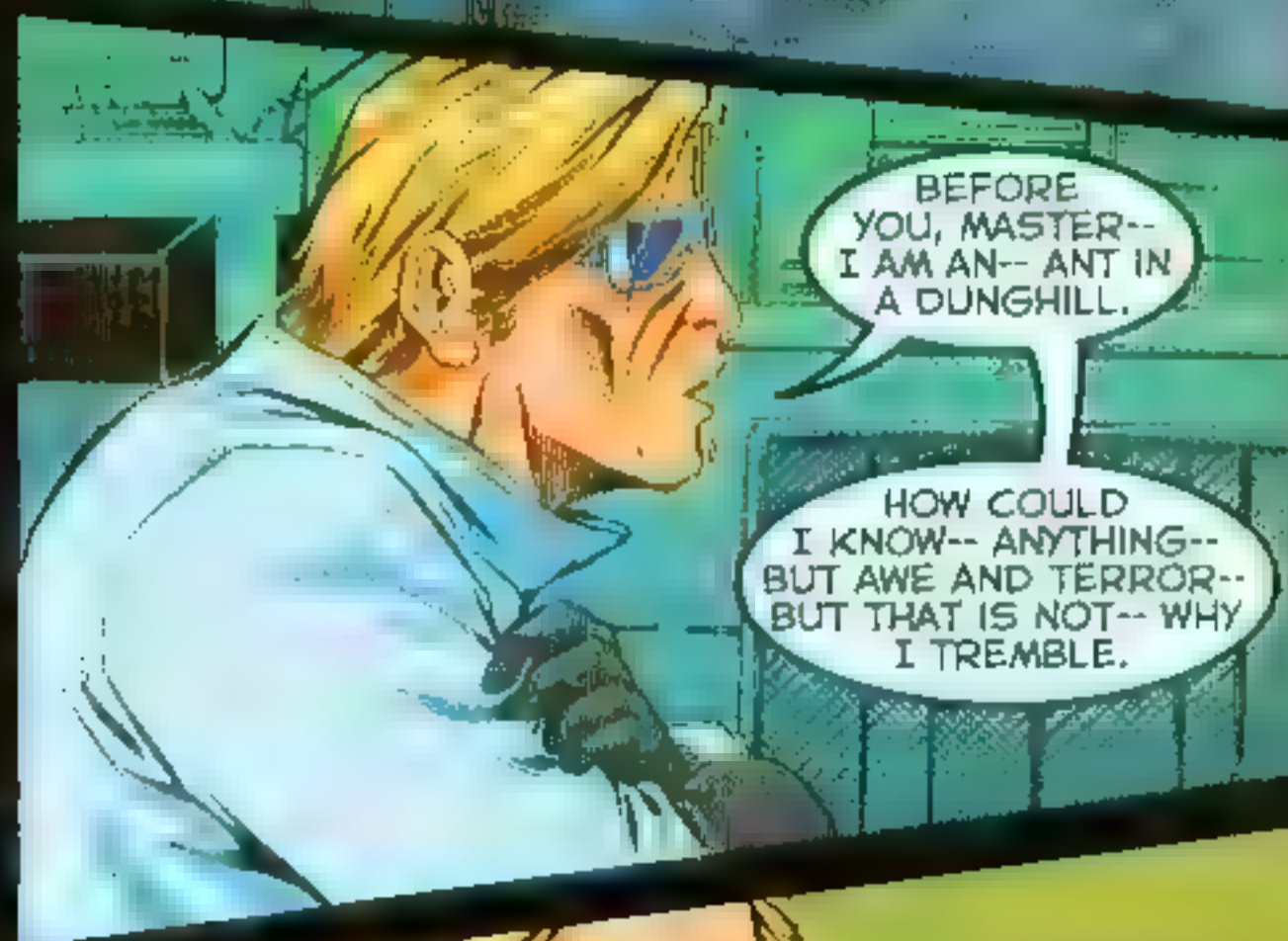


MUCH AS I REGRET
THE UNFORTUNATE LOSS
OF THE VALUSIANS, IT IS
GRATIFYING TO KNOW
THAT YOU ARE COMPLETING
THE SACRED WORK
THEY STARTED.

YOU ARE
AMONG THE MOST
VALUED ASSETS--
SO WHY DO YOU
TREMBLE?

BEFORE
YOU, MASTER--
I AM AN-- ANT IN
A DUNGHILL.

HOW COULD
I KNOW-- ANYTHING--
BUT AWE AND TERROR--
BUT THAT IS NOT-- WHY
I TREMBLE.



THE QUANTUM
NEGATIVITY FIELD--
MAY PROTECT ME--
FROM THE HEAVY
ENERGY RADIATION--
THE DRACONIUM
EMITS...

BUT NOT--
I FEAR-- FROM YOUR
PRESENCE...



IT IS FROM YOUR PRIMITIVE
NERVOUS SYSTEM THAT WE DERIVE
THE LIFEFORCE ENERGY NECESSARY
TO MANIPULATE THE THIRD DENSITY.

AND THE ASTRAL
MATERIALIZATION OF
BEINGS FROM A HIGHER
REALITY EXERTS UNENDURABLE
STRESS ON THE BASE MATTER
OF THE THIRD DENSITY--
INCLUDING YOUR FRAGILE
CORRUPTIBLE BODY,
OR ANGER.

IS IT IS
PAIN-- IS
IT UNSP?

THE URGENCY
OF-- OUR CURRENT--
SITUATION-- DENIED ME THE--
OPPORTUNITY-- TO PERFORM THE
NECESSARY-- RITUALS-- TO
PROTECT MYSELF.

I AM-- HONORED--
BY THE PAIN-- BUT PROLONGED
EXPOSURE-- MAY CAUSE--
IRREPARABLE TRAUMA.

IN THAT CASE
WE TAKE OUR LEAVE
OF YOU.

BRAIN-- DAMAGE
WOULD BE ANY USE
TO THE INTERFERENCE
OF THE AGENDA.

AS A COMMODITY
YOUR GENIUS IS VITAL
TO US. OR ANGER.

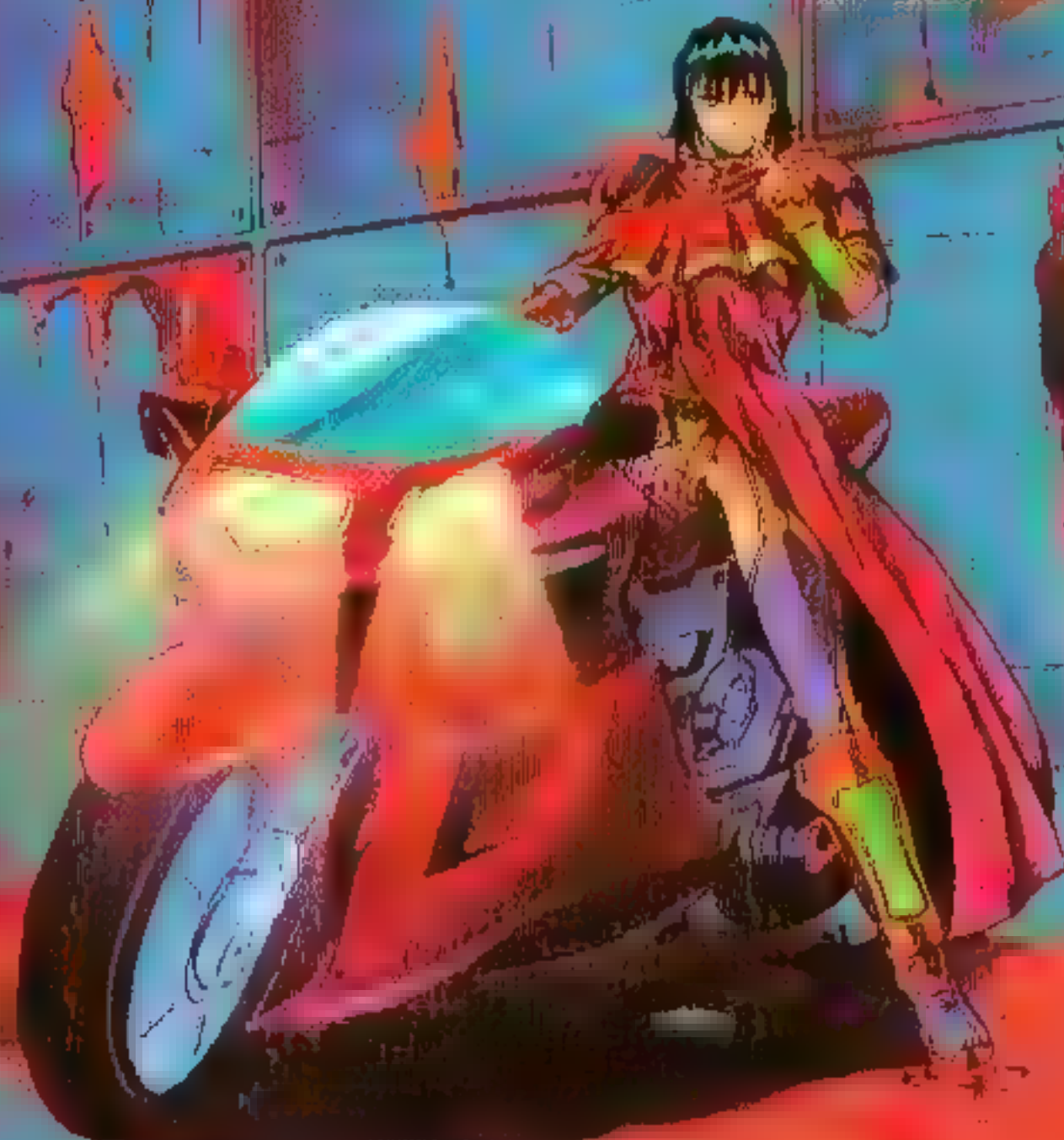
WE WOULD NO
MORE SUFFER IT
THAN NEEDLESSLY SPILL
YOUR BLOOD.

—AFTER ALL,
NOTHING IS MORE
PRECIOUS THAN
BLOOD.

HMMMM

THIS BLOOD IS VERY
FRESH. WHATEVER
HAPPENED TO THOSE
GRUNTS HAPPENED HERE

BUT WHAT'S
MISSING FROM
THIS PICTURE?



BODIES.

WHAT THE HELL
HAPPENED TO
THE BODIES?

SOMEONE WENT TO THE
TROUBLE OF MOVING THE
BODIES, BUT DIDN'T BOTHER
TO CLEAN UP THE TRAIL OF
BLOOD THEY LEFT BEHIND.



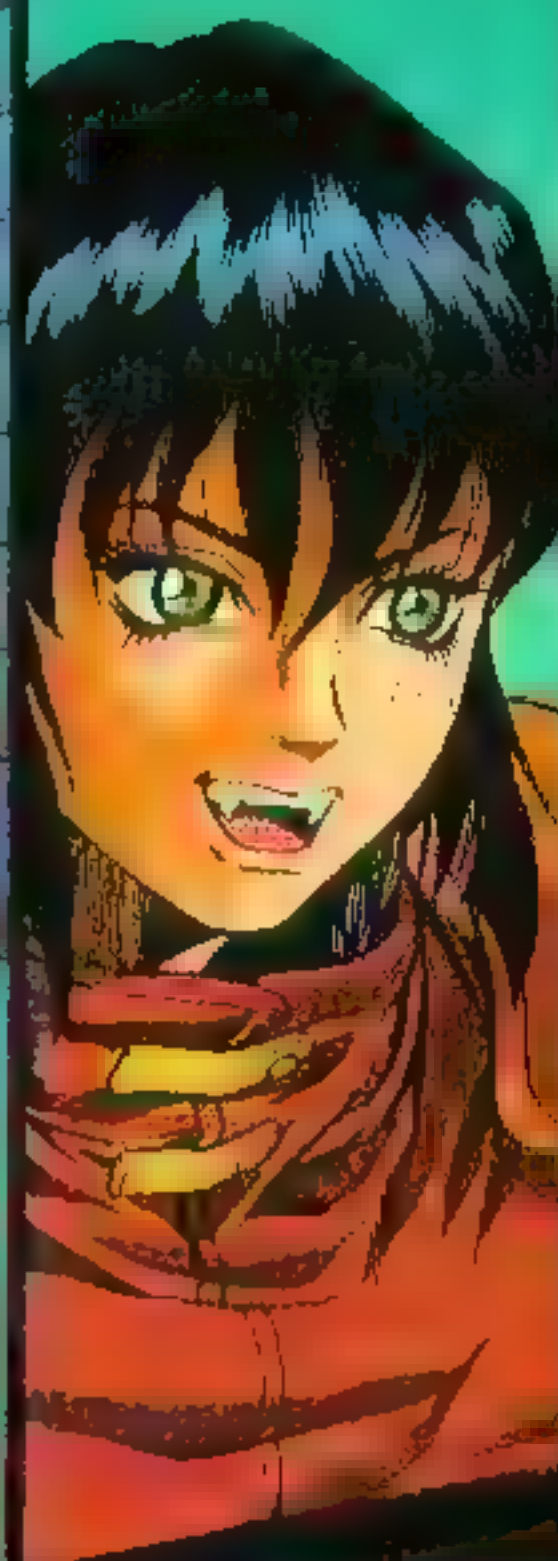
NOT EXACTLY
A WELCOME MAT...






MORE OF A
RED CARPET.

EITHER WAY IT'S
AN OPEN INVITATION
TO A VAMPIRE.



AND WHOEVER'S
ON THE OTHER
SIDE OF THAT DOOR...



JUST THE SMELL
TELLS ME THERE'S
SEVERAL TYPES HERE

I JUST HOPE
CONNIE'S ISN'T
ONE OF THEM.



... HAD BETTER
HOPE SO TOO!





WELL,
WELL, WELL.

VAMPI,
ISN'T IT?



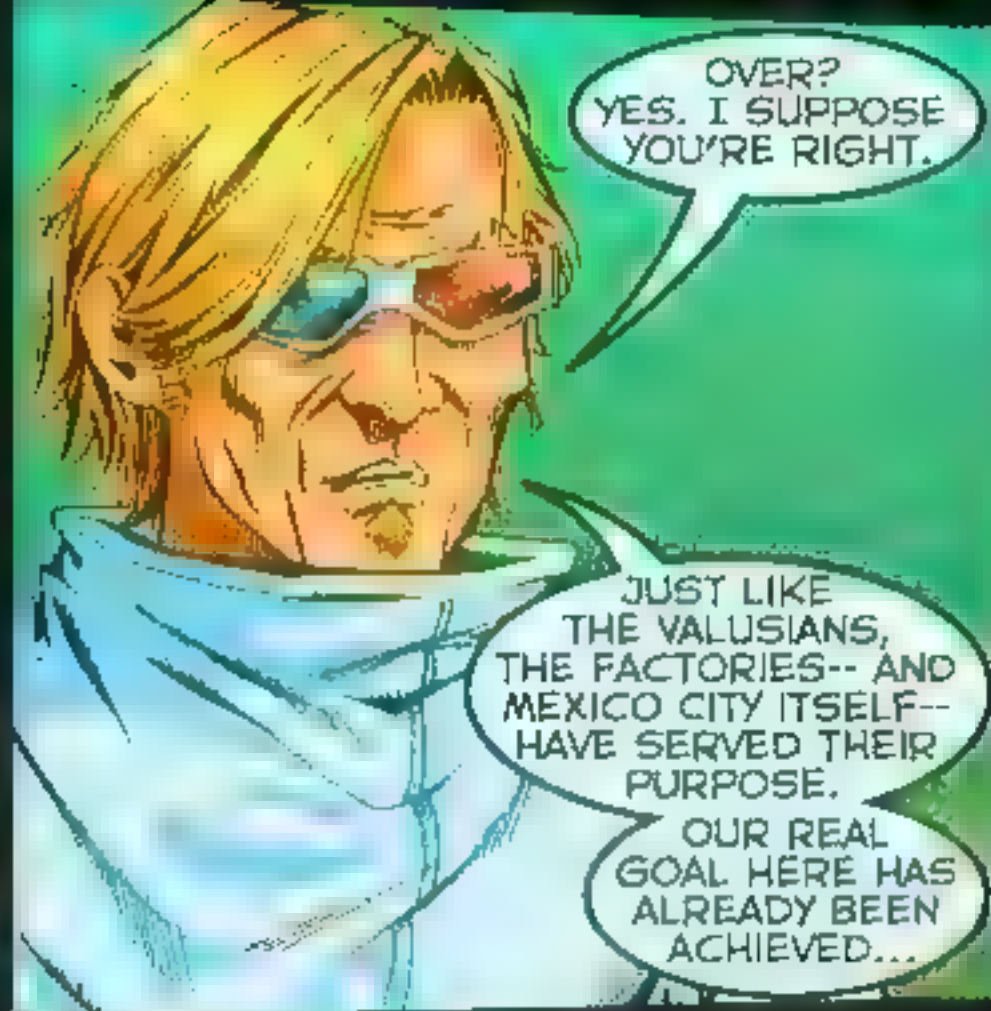
I AM
DR. ANGER--

TO BE
FRANK I THOUGHT
THE DESCRIPTIONS
OF YOU WERE
EXAGGERATED.

BUT YOU
DO SEEM RATHER
FORMIDABLE, I
MUST ADMIT.

SAVE THE
CHARM FOR
SOMEONE WHO'LL
APPRECIATE IT

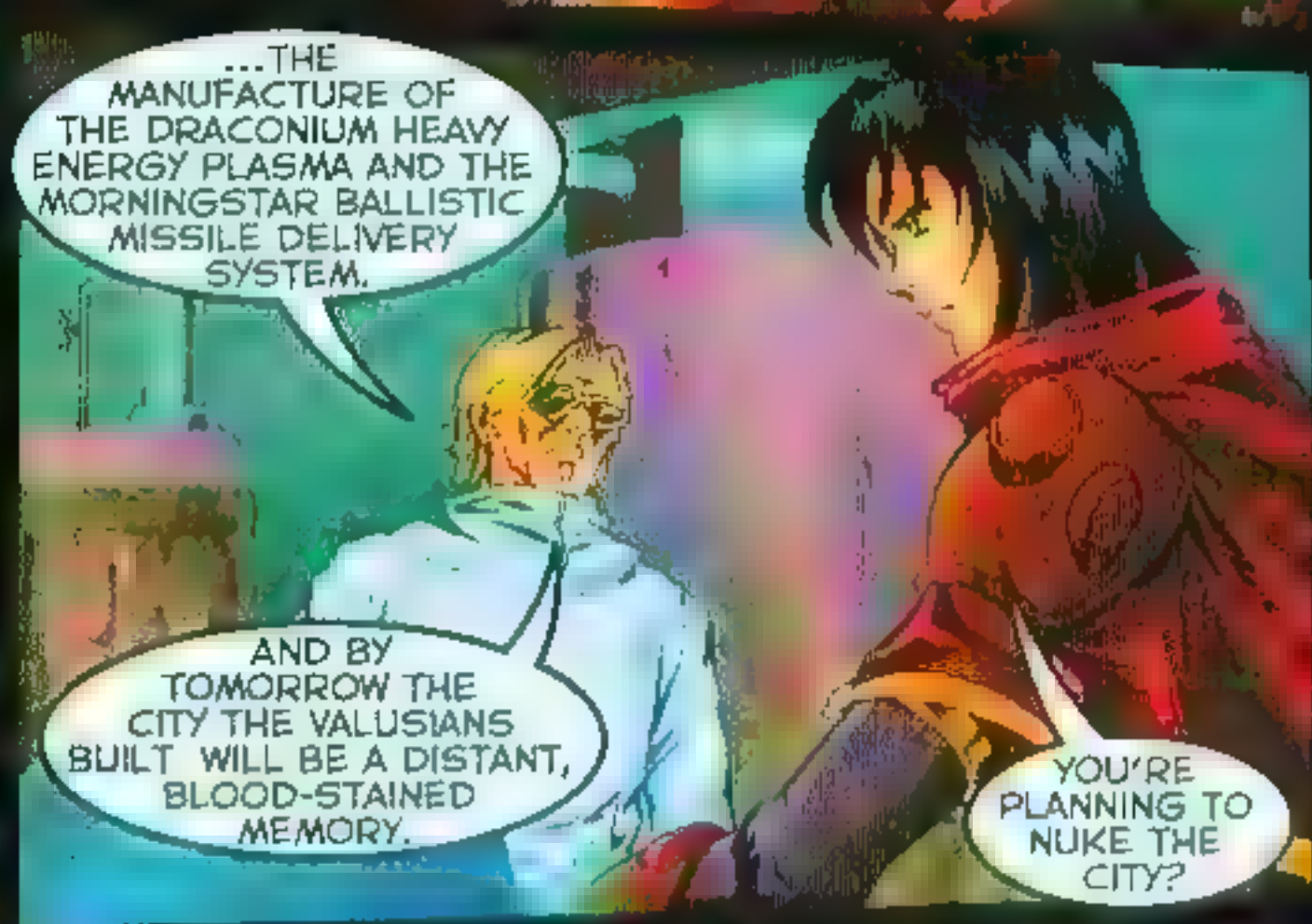
WHATEVER
YOU'RE PLANNING
HERE, IT'S
OVER.



OVER?
YES. I SUPPOSE
YOU'RE RIGHT.

JUST LIKE
THE VALUSIANS,
THE FACTORIES-- AND
MEXICO CITY ITSELF--
HAVE SERVED THEIR
PURPOSE.

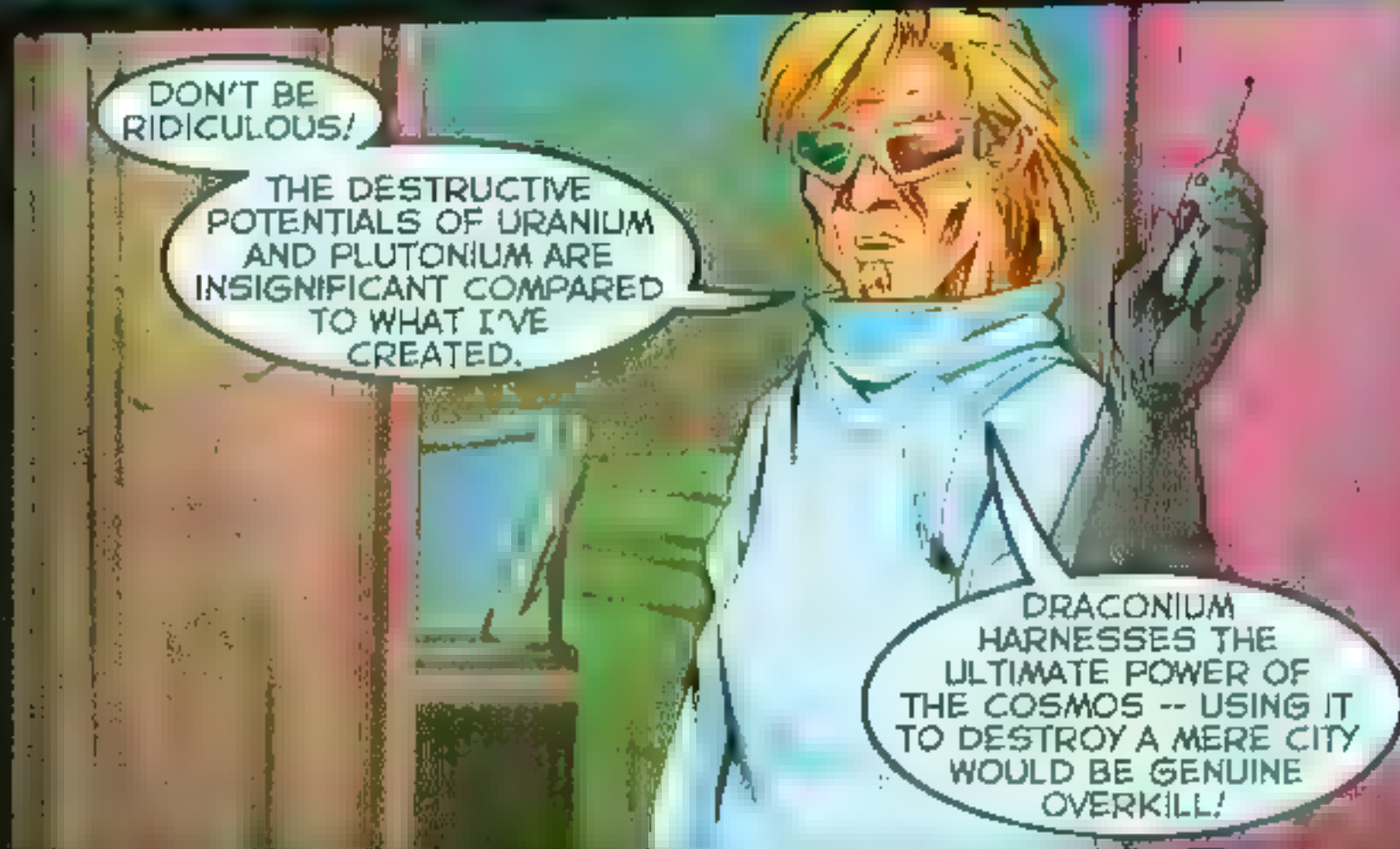
OUR REAL
GOAL HERE HAS
ALREADY BEEN
ACHIEVED...



...THE
MANUFACTURE OF
THE DRACONIUM HEAVY
ENERGY PLASMA AND THE
MORNINGSTAR BALLISTIC
MISSILE DELIVERY
SYSTEM.

AND BY
TOMORROW THE
CITY THE VALUSIANS
BUILT WILL BE A DISTANT,
BLOOD-STAINED
MEMORY.

YOU'RE
PLANNING TO
NUKE THE
CITY?



DON'T BE
RIDICULOUS!

THE DESTRUCTIVE
POTENTIALS OF URANIUM
AND PLUTONIUM ARE
INSIGNIFICANT COMPARED
TO WHAT I'VE
CREATED.

DRACONIUM
HARNESSES THE
ULTIMATE POWER OF
THE COSMOS -- USING IT
TO DESTROY A MERE CITY
WOULD BE GENUINE
OVERKILL!



DRACONIUM WON'T
BE RESPONSIBLE FOR
THE UTTER OBLITERATION
OF MEXICO CITY AND ITS
OBSOLETE PEOPLE--


-- THE
DREADNAUTS
WILL.

THE VALUSIANS
HAVE GONE THE WAY
OF THE HYDRA.

BUT THESE
SOULLESS KILLING
MACHINES ARE THE
CHILDREN OF THE
DRAGON'S
TEETH.

THEY'VE ALREADY
PROVED THEMSELVES BY
EXTERMINATING THE
SOLDIERS






SO YOU
HARDLY STAND A
CHANCE AGAINST
THEM, DO YOU?


YOU
THINK?

I WOULDN'T
START GLOATING
JUST YET, IF I
WERE YOU--

BRANCH-PIERCEING GROUND
MAXIMUM DISPERSAL PATTERN



PREDICTIONS
OF MY IMMINENT
DEMISE ARE ALWAYS
PREMATURE!

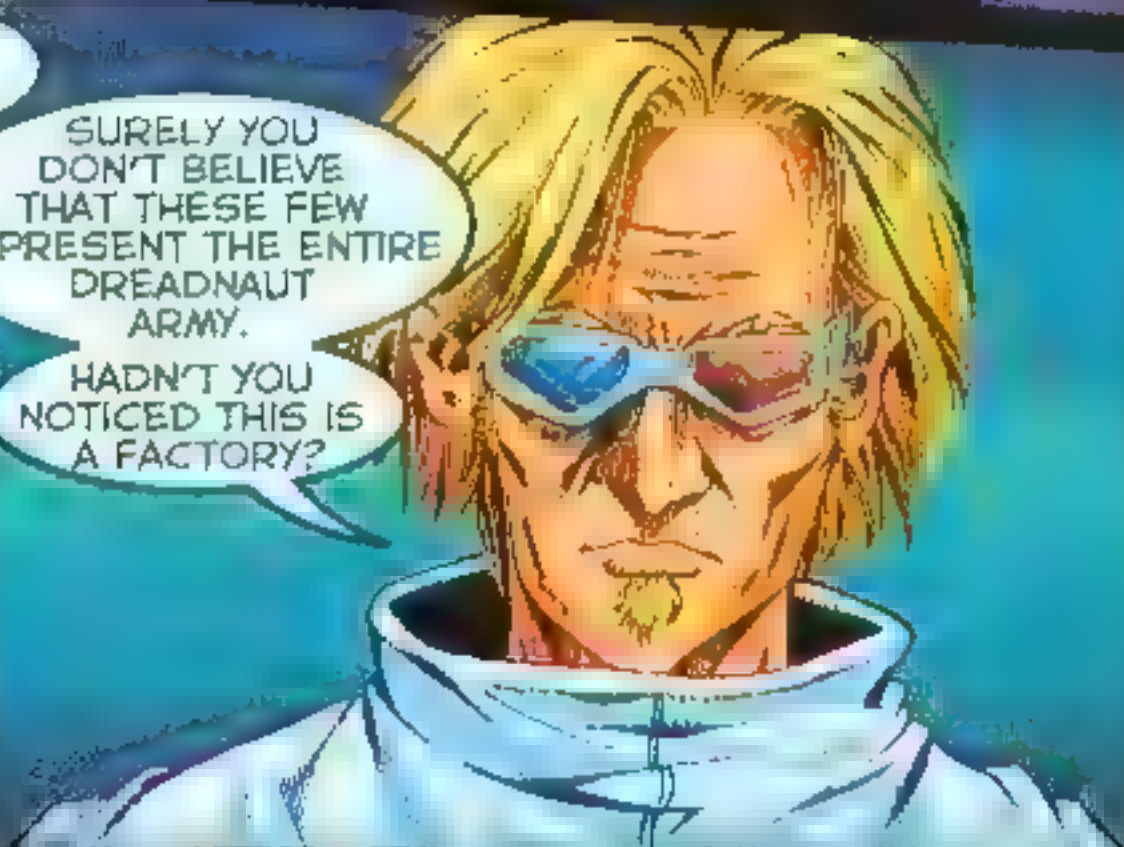


SO IF
YOU THINK THESE
FREAKY TINKER-TOYS
ARE GONNA STOP
ME--

--YOU'RE
WRONG!

SURELY YOU
DON'T BELIEVE
THAT THESE FEW
REPRESENT THE ENTIRE
DREADNAUT
ARMY.

HADN'T YOU
NOTICED THIS IS
A FACTORY?





-- THERE ARE PLENTY MORE WHERE THEY CAME FROM.



I CAN SEE YOU'RE SKILLED IN THE ARTS OF VIOLENCE.

BUT HOW LONG CAN YOUR ANIMAL GRACE--



--AND PRIMITIVE WEAPONS PROTECT YOU--

--AGAINST LASER BEAMS, FOR INSTANCE?



HOW LONG?



LONG ENOUGH, I'D SAY.

TOUCHÉ.



BUT HOW ABOUT INDUSTRIAL STRENGTH MOLECULAR ACID?

IMAGINE THE EFFECT ON YOUR LOVELY COMPLEXION.

NO MATTER HOW VALIANTLY YOU RESIST, THE FACT REMAINS:

THERE'S ONE OF YOU AND SO MANY, MANY OF THEM.

RATHER LIKE THAT OF HOLY WATER ON THE MYTHICAL MEMBERS OF YOUR SPECIES, I SHOULD THINK.



YOU'LL TIRE SOON ENOUGH-- THEY NEVER WILL.



THIS TIME IT LOOKS LIKE DISCRETION REALLY IS THE BETTER PART OF VALOR.

NOT PART OF THE ORIGINAL GAME PLAN-- BUT IF CONNIE IS HERE I NEED SPACE TO FIGURE A WAY TO SAVE BOTH OUR SKINS

AND HOW CAN I DO THAT --

YOU KNOW, FOR ONCE I THINK I AGREE WITH ONE OF YOU MAD BASTARDS.



-- WHEN I'M
SURROUNDED?



TO BE CONTINUED!



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FALLOUT

PART 1 (of 2)

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